



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Weekly Weather Crop Report



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending August 27, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, August 27, 2006**. Most county agents are concerned about the scarce amount of hay that will be available this winter. Cattle producers are selling off parts of their herds and are looking for alternative feed for the winter because of the lack of significant rainfall this season. This week’s rain is helping to keep fields from being dusty during the harvest of many row crops. Isolated cases of armyworms have been reported to be a problem. Soil moisture was rated 44 percent very short, 37 percent short, 17 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 08/27/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, dough	100	100	100	100
Corn, dent	100	99	94	98
Corn, mature	96	94	74	82
Corn, harvested	65	44	34	35
Cotton, setting bolls	100	100	100	100
Cotton, open bolls	60	37	27	37
Cotton, harvested	1	--	--	--
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	85	80	88	83
Rice, headed	99	98	99	99
Rice, mature	44	27	34	47
Rice, harvested	8	--	2	7
Sorghum, coloring	100	99	99	99
Sorghum, mature	95	91	88	80
Sorghum, harvested	81	68	40	30
Soybeans, setting pods	100	100	100	100
Soybeans, turning color	85	77	67	59
Soybeans, dropping leaves	72	60	50	43
Soybeans, harvested	54	40	23	18
Sweet potatoes, harvested	4	--	3	6
Watermelons, harvested	100	100	100	99

Crop condition for week ending 08/27/06

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	19	24	26	26	5
Cotton	13	21	28	32	6
Hay	31	39	27	2	1
Livestock	19	14	39	27	1
Pasture	36	34	24	6	0
Peanuts	5	9	29	57	0
Rice	1	7	23	59	10
Sorghum	1	16	35	46	2
Soybeans	13	23	32	28	4
Sweet Potatoes	2	24	35	32	7
Watermelons	0	21	21	58	0

County Agent Comments

“Some areas in the northern part of the state received light rains in the past four days. Pastures are very short. Hay or supplemental feeding will be in full swing within two weeks if additional rainfall is not received. Producers are gearing up to plant a significant amount of winter grazing when an ample amount of rain is received.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Most areas of the county received rain during the weekend but it may have been too late for crops. It improved pastures and hay ground. Corn and soybean harvesting has begun with drastically reduced yields of 6 bushels of beans and around 35 bushels of corn per acre. Cotton seems to have held its own during the dry weather.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

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— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Several rains have reduced the dust and helped some of the grasses to grow. The harvest was not slowed for long. Corn and soybeans will not last long with the combine power in the fields at this time. The cotton harvest has begun with some gins running.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“With the exception of some late planted cotton and soybeans, any rain that arrives now may not improve our situation very much. Hay fields, in most cases, are beyond the point where additional rain might allow another cutting to be made.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Harvesting of all crops is underway. Cotton picking will get going this week along with the rice harvest. Rice yields are very good.”
Don Respons, Bolivar

“Almost an inch of rain helped the pastures and hay fields a little but the ground soaked it up pretty fast. It has become too little too late. Cattlemen are either selling their herd down or acquiring alternative feed sources to replace their short hay crop. This in itself is very expensive. Corn and soybean harvests are near completion. Some dry land cotton will be defoliated next week.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Some early soybeans are being harvested and yields are varied. Corn is maturing but yields are expected to be down. Cotton benefited from the scattered showers we had last week.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Rain has helped feelings but not much else. Hay may give us a late cutting in late September if we are lucky.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Dry conditions continue. Livestock producers are selling cattle due to a lack of hay. Alternate forages and feeds are being inquired about as well as out of state hay sources.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Corn and MG IV soybeans are being harvested. Some bolls are beginning to open in the early planted cotton. Fall armyworms are a problem in pastures and hay fields in isolated areas.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Some rain fell across the area this week but for most fields, it was too late to help the crop. Corn and soybean harvests have continued to move forward. Several rice growers started harvesting their crop. Several cotton growers applied defoliation materials this week.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“The end of hay season is fast drawing to a close due to the lack of moisture and the time of year. I had hoped that just maybe we would get some frequent and slow rains to replenish the soil moisture which would promote needed forage growth. We desperately need rain for late hay production and winter forage producers.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“A few widely scattered rains fell. Overall the county is very dry. Cattlemen have been feeding hay for some time now and are looking to import or substitute for hay the best way they can. Crop harvests are very disappointing.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Spotted thunderstorms brought relief to many parts of the county. A good general rain is still needed to supply adequate moisture for winter grazing crops. Hay continues to be harvested. Yields are improving with rain showers but are still far short of being normal.”

— Victor Lee, Simpson

“Pastures and forage production are in the catch up mode and doing very well. Army worms are a persistent problem. ECRP sign-up for timber landowners is going well.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Producers are benefiting from afternoon thunderstorms that have provided some moisture for dry, dusty pastures. Hay will be very short this winter as many producers are already feeding their herds. The corn yields this year are considerably lower due to the lack of rain during the crucial growing stage.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Armyworms continue to march through hay fields, pastures, and even some home lawns. They are very hungry. Beef producers hope that the scattered rain in the county will produce enough moisture to grow another crop of hay. The corn harvest has begun; however, it's too early for a yield prediction.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO
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Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/27/06													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	101	69	84	80	4	0.98	0.62	2	2.30				
Lambert	101	67	83			2.80	2.10	2	4.36				
Tunica	100	68	83	79	4	2.70	2.17	2	3.05				
Extreme/Average	101	67	84	79	5	1.89	1.33	2	2.30				
North-Central													
Calhoun City	94	65	81	78	3	0.67	-0.03	2	2.56				
Hickory Flat	98	63	80	77	3	1.93	1.11	1	6.79				
Independence	99	63	80	78	2	0.76	0.06	2	1.83				
Oxford	100	65	83	78	5	1.03	0.26	3	2.14				
Extreme/Average	100	63	81	78	3	0.90	0.18	3	1.83				
Northeast													
Booneville	99	66	84	77	7	0.05	-0.72	1	0.76				
Iuka	97	61	78	75	3	0.02	-0.83	1	2.40				
Ripley	98	64	80	77	3	1.52	0.87	2	3.69				
Tupelo	100	68	84			0.07	0.00	2	0.81				
Verona	99	57	82	79	3	0.56	-0.35	1	1.54				
Extreme/Average	100	57	82	78	4	0.44	-0.28	1	1.32				
Lower Delta													
Moorhead	100	70	84	81	3	0.39	-0.12	3	1.17				
Rolling Fork	101	71	84	80	4	1.15	0.59	2	1.70				
Stoneville	100	69	84	80	4	0.01	-0.42	1	1.50				
Yazoo City	99	70	83	81	2	0.63	-0.07	1	2.55				
Extreme/Average	101	69	84	81	3	0.55	-0.01	2	1.74				
Central													
Canton	101	69	84	80	4	0.19	-0.45	2	0.93				
Carthage	100	69	84	79	5	0.79	0.02	3	1.17				
Eupora	99	66	81	78	3	0.71	0.04	3	3.11				
Lexington	99	69	83	78	5	0.13	-0.50	1	1.73				
Extreme/Average	101	66	83	79	4	0.46	-0.25	2	1.73				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	100	71	84	79	5	0.04	-0.60	2	0.93				
Houston	100	65	83	77	6	0.03	-0.69	1	1.21				
Philadelphia				79		0.00	0.00	0	1.82				
State University	101	64	82	79	3	0.45	-0.26	1	1.43				
Extreme/Average	101	64	83	79	4	0.17	-0.55	1	1.07				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	99	71	83	80	3	0.98	0.12	3	3.97				
Natchez	99	72	83	80	3	1.13	0.22	5	1.98				
Oakley	101	68	82	80	2	0.04	-0.80	1	4.28				
Vicksburg	98	74	84			0.68	0.00	2	1.81				
Extreme/Average	101	68	83	80	3	0.93	0.03	3	2.98				
South-Central													
Collins	99	71	83	80	3	1.17	0.26	3	3.31				
Columbia	97	73	83	81	2	4.03	3.05	4	9.11				
Tylertown	97	71	82	80	2	1.92	0.92	4	5.47				
Extreme/Average	99	71	83	80	3	2.37	1.39	4	6.21				
Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00	0.00	0	0.63				
Hattiesburg	98	71	84	81	3	0.66	-0.39	2	4.71				
Laurel	98	71	83	80	3	0.07	-0.84	2	6.42				
Newton	100	66	82	79	3	0.06	-0.77	2	2.25				
Extreme/Average	100	66	83	80	3	0.26	-0.58	2	2.25				
Coastal													
Gulfport	91	73	82	82		0.42	-0.87	2	4.68				
Pascagoula 3 NE				81		1.20	-0.26	2	1.58				
Picayune	96	72	84	81	3	2.30	1.13	5	4.50				
Extreme/Average	96	72	83	81	2	1.31	0.05	3	0.00				
State	101	57	83	80	3	0.85	0.06	2	2.36				

DFN = Departure from Normal.